

REMARKS

Status of Claims:

Claims 18, 22-23 and 25-27 are pending herein. Claim 19 has been canceled. Each of independent Claims 18 and 25 has been amended herein.

Objection to Claim 19 for Informalities

Claim 19 was objected to because of the informalities noted in paragraph 1 of the Action. Claim 19 has now been canceled, rendering the objection moot. Withdrawal of the objection to Claim 19 is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The prior indication of allowability of Claims 24 and 25 has now been withdrawn.

102(b) Rejection of Claims 18, 19, 22, 23, 25 and 26 and 103(a) Rejection of Claim 27

Claims 18, 19, 22, 23, 25 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yang (U.S. Patent No. 5,442,214). Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang in view of Bulucea et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,886,931, hereinafter "Bulucea").

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, each of these rejections is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Each of independent Claims 18 and 25 are directed to a method of forming a trench MOSFET device and have been amended to recite the steps of "forming a *single* doped region of said first conductivity type between a bottom portion of said trench and said substrate...", that the "*single* doped region is diffused and spans 100% of the distance from said trench bottom portion to said substrate", that the steps of etching said trench and forming said doped region comprise "forming a trench mask directly on said epitaxial layer", and finally, each of Claims 18 and 25 now recite that the step of "forming a source region of said first conductivity type within an upper portion of said body region and adjacent said trench" is performed "*subsequent to said steps of etching said trench and forming said doped region*".

Yang fails to teach a method in accordance with amended independent Claims 18 and 25. Thus, the rejection of Claims 18 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on the alleged teachings of Yang is believed to be overcome.

It is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 18 and 25, as amended herein, are now in condition for allowance. Claims 19-23 and 26-27 are dependent on, and contain all the limitations of Claim 18, and as such are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reason as Claim 18.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

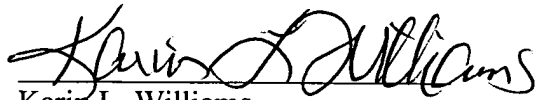
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that Claims 18, 22-23 and 25-27 are presently in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

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The Office is authorized to charge any fees required to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,


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